

CLAIMS

1. A printing system comprising:
a printer; and
5 a first accessory device coupled to receive printed pages from the printer, wherein the first accessory device contains a straight-through paper path and a reversing paper path to reverse the order of the printed pages received from the printer.
- 10 2. A printing system as recited in claim 1 wherein the reversing paper path reverses the order of the printed pages received from the printer prior to processing the printed pages.
3. A printing system as recited in claim 1 wherein the printer has an
15 output coupled to the first accessory device, wherein the first accessory device receives printed pages from the printer output.
4. A printing system as recited in claim 1 further including a second
20 accessory device coupled to receive printed pages from the first accessory device, wherein the second accessory device contains a straight-through paper path and a reversing paper path to reverse the order of the printed pages received from the first accessory device.
- 25 5. A printing system as recited in claim 1 wherein the straight-through paper path maintains the printed pages in the same order as received from the printer.

6. A printing system as recited in claim 1 further including a second accessory device coupled to receive printed pages from the first accessory device and a third accessory device coupled to receive printed pages from the second accessory device, wherein the second accessory device and the third accessory device each contain a straight-through paper path and a reversing paper path to reverse the order of the printed pages received from the previous accessory device prior to processing the printed pages.

7. A printing system as recited in claim 1 wherein the first accessory device is a stapler.

8. A printing system as recited in claim 1 wherein the first accessory device is a binding device.

9. A printing system as recited in claim 1 wherein the first accessory device inserts additional media into the printed pages.

10. A printing system as recited in claim 1 wherein the first accessory device is a hole punching device.

11. A printing system as recited in claim 1 wherein the first accessory device is a mailbox device with multiple locations to receive printed sheets.

12. A printing system as recited in claim 1 wherein the printer is a laser printer.

13. An accessory device capable of being coupled to receive printed pages from a previous device, the accessory device comprising:

a straight-through paper path that maintains the printed pages in the same order as received from the previous device; and

5 a reversing paper path to reverse the order of the printed pages received from the previous device.

14. An accessory device as recited in claim 13 wherein the reversing paper path reverses the order of the printed pages received from the previous
10 device prior to processing the printed pages.

15. An accessory device as recited in claim 13 wherein the accessory device is coupled to an output of the previous device to receive printed pages from the previous device.

16. An accessory device as recited in claim 13 further including an output capable of being coupled to a second accessory device to allow the second accessory device to receive printed pages from the accessory device.

20 17. An accessory device as recited in claim 13 wherein the accessory device further processes the printed pages received from the printing device.

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18. A method comprising:

generating a plurality of printed pages from a printing device;

outputting the plurality of printed pages, in reverse order, from the printing device to a first accessory device coupled to the printing device;

5 processing the received printed pages in the first accessory device, wherein the first accessory device has a straight-through paper path that maintains the printed pages in the same order as received from the printing device and a reversing paper path to reverse the order of the printed pages received from the printing device.

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19. A method as recited in claim 18 further including outputting the plurality of printed pages from the first accessory device to a second accessory device coupled to the first accessory device.

15 20. A method as recited in claim 19 wherein the second accessory device has a straight-through paper path that maintains the printed pages in the same order as received from the first accessory device and a reversing paper path to reverse the order of the printed pages received from the first accessory device.

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21. A method as recited in claim 18 further including communicating processing instructions from the printing device to the first accessory device.

22. A method as recited in claim 21 wherein the instructions
25 determine whether the first accessory device is required to process the printed pages.